

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1

COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Changes in Merchant Seamen's Pay	DATE DISTR.	31 July 1953
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. Since 1 April 1953, the following changes were instituted in the pay of sea-going merchant marine personnel:
  - a. Over-time rate of pay was increased by 20% per hour. At present this amounts to: 9.00 zl. for officers, 5.25 zl. for leading seamen and 3.30 zl. for seamen.
  - b. Daily food allowances were increased from 3.00 zl. to 4.60 zl. although the quantity and the quality of food has not changed at all.
2. In theory, the merchant seamen at sea should have gained by these changes, but in practice the majority of personnel received less money (by a small percentage) than previously. Owing to the increase in the rate for over-time and in the food allowance, almost everyone has passed to the higher taxation group, which has resulted in decreasing their pay.
3. In one particular case, before 1 April 1953, the man concerned received 820.00 zl. net, which included 41 over-time hours, this with 11% tax already deducted. On 1 May 1953, for the same amount of over-time work, he received 773.00 zl. net and tax deducted was 17%. His pay amounted therefore to 47.00 zl. less than in April 1953. The explanation of the time lag is that sea-going personnel are paid at the end of a time period, whereas P.L.O (Polish Ocean Lines) employees are paid in advance. Merchant marine personnel were not informed beforehand of the change in pay, and it only came to their knowledge on pay day, 30 April 1953. This change caused great bitterness among the seamen and the majority of them now refuse to work overtime because this does not pay them.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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